

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF GRAFTON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MAY 13, 2019

MINUTES

The Special Town Meeting for the Town of Grafton was held on Monday, May 13, 2019 in the Auditorium of the Grafton High School at 7:00 p.m.

Upon order of the Moderator, Raymond Mead, 217 Brigham Hill Road, checkers were stationed at the entrances to the hall, using voting lists with which to check the names of those persons who entered.

The Moderator opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all present.

Mr. Mead advised all present of the procedures used during Town Meeting.

Mr. Mead then appointed David Robbins, 92 George Hill Road, as Deputy Moderator.

Town Clerk, Kandy Lavallee, read the return of the warrant.

ARTICLE 1. ADJUST FY19 BUDGET

To see if the Town will transfer from sources below, the following sums of money for the purpose of adjusting the FY19 operating budget:

<i>Amount</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
\$45,000	Police Personnel Salaries	Police Expenses
\$11,200.00	Building Department Personnel	Human Resources Personnel
\$3,600.00	Fire Department Expenses	Municipal Salaries
\$20,000.00	Town Insurance Expenses	Group Health Insurance
\$34,000.00	BOS Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$23,000.00	Treasurer/Collector Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$30,000.00	Clerk Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$15,000.00	Conservation Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$1,750.00	Building Department Salaries	Group Health Insurance

\$2,000.00	Building Department Expenses	Group Health Insurance
\$2,500.00	Gas Inspector Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$3,000.00	Plumbing Inspector Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$10,000.00	COA Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$4,600.00	Town Accountant Expenses	Group Health Insurance
\$5,000.00	Planning Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$20,000.00	Highway Department Expenses	Highway Department Personnel
\$1,000.00	Assessors Personnel	Assessors Expenses
\$5,000.00	Library Expenses	Library Personnel
\$1,400	Animal Control Expenses	Animal Inspector Personnel

Submitted by: Town Administrator

MOTION by Selectmen Hanna: I move the Town vote to transfer from sources below, the following sums of money for the purpose of adjusting the FY19 operating budget:

<i>Amount</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
\$45,000	Police Personnel Salaries	Police Expenses
\$11,200.00	Building Department Personnel	Human Resources Personnel
\$3,600.00	Fire Department Expenses	Municipal Salaries
\$20,000.00	Town Insurance Expenses	Group Health Insurance
\$34,000.00	BOS Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$23,000.00	Treasurer/Collector Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$30,000.00	Clerk Salaries	Group Health Insurance

\$15,000.00	Conservation Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$1,750.00	Building Department Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$2,000.00	Building Department Expenses	Group Health Insurance
\$2,500.00	Gas Inspector Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$3,000.00	Plumbing Inspector Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$10,000.00	COA Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$4,600.00	Town Accountant Expenses	Group Health Insurance
\$5,000.00	Planning Salaries	Group Health Insurance
\$20,000.00	Highway Department Expenses	Highway Department Personnel
\$1,000.00	Assessors Personnel	Assessors Expenses
\$5,000.00	Library Expenses	Library Personnel
\$1,400	Animal Control Expenses	Animal Inspector Personnel

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 2. BALANCE FY19 SNOW & ICE ACCOUNT

To see if the Town will transfer \$174,163 from the Overlay Surplus Account for the purposes of balancing the FY19 Snow & Ice account.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

MOTION by Selectmen Dauphinais: I move that the Town vote to transfer \$174,163 from the Overlay Surplus Account for the purposes of balancing the FY19 Snow & Ice account.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 3. AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF PRIOR FISCAL YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to pass over Article 3.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

MOTION by Selectmen Thomas: I move the town vote to pass over Article 3.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 4. SICK AND VACATION BUYBACK

To see if the Town will vote to pass over Article 4.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

MOTION by Selectmen Spinney: I move the town vote to pass over Article 4.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 5. ASSESSORS FY20 PROPERTY REVALUATION

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$50,000 from the Overlay Surplus Account, to an Article entitled "Real Estate Revaluation Services", established May 12, 2008 at the Annual Town Meeting, to fund the Assessors' FY20 town wide revaluation.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

MOTION by Selectmen Prisby: I move the town vote to transfer \$50,000 from the Overlay Surplus Account, to an Article entitled "Real Estate Revaluation Services",

established May 12, 2008 at the Annual Town Meeting, to fund the Assessors' FY20 town wide revaluation.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 6. ESTABLISH SCHOOL RENTAL REVOLVING FUND

To see if the Town will vote to establish a revolving fund entitled School Rental Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL Ch. 40, Sec. 3, for the purpose of receiving rental payments for the leasing of surplus space in or on a school as described in Article 6 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant, and vote to accept the proviso of that statute that allows any remaining balance to be expended without further appropriation for the upkeep and maintenance of any facility under the control of the school committee.

Submitted by: School Superintendent

MOTION by Selectmen Hanna: I move the town vote to establish a revolving fund entitled School Rental Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL Ch. 40, Sec. 3, for the purpose of receiving rental payments for the leasing of surplus space in or on a school as described in Article 6 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant, and vote to accept the proviso of that statute that allows any remaining balance to be expended without further appropriation for the upkeep and maintenance of any facility under the control of the school committee.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 7. ESTABLISH SCHOOL EXTENDED SERVICES REVOLVING FUND

To see if the Town will vote to establish a revolving fund entitled School Extended Services Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL Ch. 71, Section 26C, for the purpose of receiving fees for programs outside of the school day or year as described in Article 7 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Submitted by: School Superintendent

MOTION by Selectmen Dauphinais: I move the town vote to establish a revolving fund entitled School Extended Services Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL Ch. 71, Section 26C, for the purpose of receiving fees for programs outside of the school day or year as described in Article 7 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant..

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 8. STREETLIGHT CONVERSION TO LED

To see if the Town will vote to transfer up to \$123,435 from free cash, to fund the LED Streetlight Conversion Project as described in Article 8 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

MOTION by Selectmen Thomas: I move the Town vote to transfer up to \$123,435 from free cash, to fund the LED Streetlight Conversion Project as described in Article 8 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the vote carried.

ARTICLE 9. EASEMENT TO NATIONAL GRID/MASS. ELECTRIC & OTHER UTILITIES FOR UNDERGROUND & ABOVE GROUND SYSTEM FOR NEW DPW FACILITY AT 48 OLD WESTBORO ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey easements for the DPW Project as presented in article 9 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

MOTION by Selectmen Spinney: I move the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey easements for the DPW Project as presented in article 9 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

The motion was seconded.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 10. INSTITUTE ROAD ROADWAY AND LAYOUT ACCEPTANCE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the roadways and associated utilities and easements known as "Institute Road".

Submitted by: Town Administrator

MOTION by Selectmen Prisby: I move the Town vote to accept the roadways and associated utilities and easements known as “Institute Road”.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the vote carried.

ARTICLE 11. EASEMENTS MAIN STREET, GRAFTON

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate with property owners the acquisition by gift, purchase, or taking temporary and permanent easements to real property along Main Street in Grafton as proposed in Article 11 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Submitted by: Town Administrator

MOTION by Selectmen Hanna: I move the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate with property owners the acquisition by gift, purchase, or taking temporary and permanent easements to real property along Main Street in Grafton as proposed in Article 11 of the May 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 12. CPC - PURCHASE OF ROBINSON PROPERTIES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$475,000, with \$337,500 from the CPC Undesignated Fund Balance and \$137,500 from Open Space Reserve, for the acquisition of 163, 165, 171 Upton Street and 2 Stowe Road, totaling more or less 10.38 acres, to be preserved as open space for passive recreation and to convey a conservation restriction to be held by the Grafton Land Trust, with such funds to be expended by June 2021.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

MOTION by Selectmen Dauphinais: I move the Town vote to appropriate \$475,000, with \$337,500 from the CPC Undesignated Fund Balance and \$137,500 from Open Space Reserve, for the acquisition of 163, 165, 171 Upton Street and 2 Stowe Road, totaling more or less 10.38 acres, to be preserved as open space for passive recreation and to convey a conservation restriction to be held by the Grafton Land Trust, with such funds to be expended by June 2021.

The motion was seconded.

Rob Aberg, President of the Grafton Land Trust, gave a brief presentation on the topic.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried by the required two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE 13. CPC – HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESERVE ADJUSTMENT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$5,289 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance for CPA Purposes Account to the Historic Preservation Reserve Account for the purpose of meeting the CPA 10% reserve requirement.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

MOTION by Selectmen Thomas: I move that the Town vote to transfer \$5,289 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance for CPA Purposes Account to the Historic Preservation Reserve Account for the purpose of meeting the CPA 10% reserve requirement.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 14. CPC – AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESERVE ADJUSTMENT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$5,289 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance for CPA Purposes Account to the Affordable Housing Reserve Account for the purpose of meeting the CPA 10% reserve requirement.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

MOTION by Selectmen Spinney: I move the Town vote to transfer \$5,289 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance for CPA Purposes Account to the Affordable Housing Reserve Account for the purpose of meeting the CPA 10% reserve requirement.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 15. CPC – OPEN SPACE RESERVE ADJUSTMENT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$5,289 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance for CPA Purposes Account to the Open Space Reserve Account for the purpose of meeting the CPA 10% reserve requirement.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

MOTION by Selectmen Prisby: I move the Town vote to transfer \$5,289 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance for CPA Purposes Account to the Open Space Reserve Account for the purpose of meeting the CPA 10% reserve requirement.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 16. CPC – AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$54,987 from the CPA Affordable Housing Reserve account to the Grafton Affordable Housing Trust.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

MOTION by Selectmen Hanna: I move the Town vote to transfer \$54,987 from the CPA Affordable Housing Reserve account to the Grafton Affordable Housing Trust.

The motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 17. PROPOSED AMENDEMENT TO THE GRAFTON ZONING BY-LAW

To see if the Town will vote to approve the amendment to the Grafton Zoning Bylaw as follows:

1. ZBL Section 3.1.2 – Zoning Map: To amend the “Town of Grafton – Zoning Map” by zoning the following properties to “Chapter 43D Priority Development Site Overlay District”: 244 Worcester Street (Map 35, Parcel 1).

Submitted by: Planning Board

MOTION by Selectmen Dauphinais: I move the Town vote to approve the amendment to the Grafton Zoning Bylaw as follows:

1. ZBL Section 3.1.2 – Zoning Map: To amend the “Town of Grafton – Zoning Map” by zoning the following properties to “Chapter 43D Priority Development Site Overlay District”: 244 Worcester Street (Map 35, Parcel 1).

The motion was seconded.

Robert Hassinger, Chairman of the Planning Board, read the Planning Board’s Report.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried by the required two third votes.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Motion was seconded.

A vote was taken.

The Moderator declared the motion carried, and declared the meeting adjourned.

A true copy,
Attest,

Kandy L. Lavallee
Town Clerk